

## **REMARKS**

### **Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-30 are pending in this application.

Claims 1, 12 and 21 have been amended. Support for these amendments can be found throughout the specification, claims, and drawings, as originally filed.

### **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS TO CLAIMS 1-30**

On December 7, 2004 Applicant submitted an amendment in response to Final Office Action to which the Examiner found to be non-persuasive. Subsequently, Applicant filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments to claims 1, 12 and 21 as set forth in this preliminary amendment. Applicant will now discuss the patentability of claims 1-30 over U.S. Patent No. 3,712,703 to Newdigate (hereafter Newdigate) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,136,925 to Menzies, et al. (hereafter Menzies).

Applicant notes that claims 1, 12 and 21 are all independent claims, which have been amended to recite that the rotor rotates without touching the mirror or mirror frame. Furthermore, claims 1, 12 and 21 have been amended to recited that the rotor is operatively connected to the mirror by stabilizing the mirror against tilting vibrational movement by rotating within the mirror frame and without directly contacting the mirror frame or the mirror. In view of the above amendments, Applicant notes that Newdigate in view of Menzies would no longer be properly combinable since the intended function of each of these references would be destroyed if they were combined to render currently pending independent claims 1, 12 and 20 obvious. Both Newdigate and Menzies teach a mirror that rotates about an axis to remove water droplets accumulated on the mirror. See Col. 1, Lines 6-21 of Newdigate and Col. 4, Lines 14-20 of Menzies, et al. Independent claims 1, 12 and 21 of the present application now specify that the rotor rotates but does not contact the mirror, or

mirror frame, therefore in order for Newdigate or Menzies to be properly combinable to allow the invention claimed in claims 1, 12 and 21 these references would need to be modified so that the mirror portion does not rotate. If Newdigate or Menzies were modified in such a manner the objectives of removing water droplets or other particles through rotation of the mirror portion of these references would be destroyed since clearly the mirror portion must rotate in order for droplets or other particles accumulated on the mirror to be dispersed. Applicant submits that the combination of Newdigate and Menzies are not properly combinable without the destroying the objective of each of these individual references. Therefore, one skilled in the art would not be motivated to combine these references in the manner suggested. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 1-30 since this preliminary amendment places them in allowable form. Allowance is respectfully requested.

### CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits amendments to claims 1, 12 and 21 which Applicant believes now puts the present claims in condition for allowance as they now define around the prior art. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 1-30. Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for substantive examination, and such examination is respectfully requested, and that the claim amendments are requested to more particularly characterize the invention.

Respectfully submitted,

WARN, HOFFMANN, MILLER & LALONE, P.C.  
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

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By: 

Philip R. Warn  
Reg. No. 32775

P.O. Box 70098, Rochester Hills, MI 48307  
(248) 364-4300

PRW:GLO:cah